

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-19

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARA-16 IO-14 SCI-06 AEC-11 FEAE-00

CIAE-00 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 RSC-01 EUR-25

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 PA-04 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15

DRC-01 /168 W

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R 101323Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5494

INFO USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRASILIA 6872

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, TECH, IAEA, AR, CA, BR

SUBJECT: ARGENTINE SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENT

REF: A. STATE 191754

B. STATE 194037

1. SUPERFICIALLY, BRAZIL IS ON THE SIDE OF THE ANGELS
WITH REGARD TO SAFEGUARDS DESPITE BEING NPT NON-SIGNATORY.
IN ADDITION, IT WOULD SEEM LOGICAL TO ASSUME THAT BECAUSE
OF REGIONAL RIVALRIES BRAZIL WOULD NOT WISH ARGENTINA TO
BE IN POSITION TO HOLD UNSAFEGUARDED PLUTONIUM. HOWEVER,
THERE ARE A NUMBER OF VARIABLES WHICH CAST DOUBT ON ABOVE
POINTS.

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2. BRAZIL HAS BEEN ENGAGED IN POLICY OF RAPPROACHMENT

WITH ARGENTINA SINCE INITIATION OF GEISEL GOVERNMENT AND WOULD PROBABLY BE MOST RELUCTANT TO JOINT ANTI-ARGENTINE DONNYBROOK . IN ADDITION, BECAUSE OF ANTI-HEGEMONIC REACTIONS IN THE HEMISPHERE, GOB TENDS TO SUBMERGE ITS OWN ASPIRATIONS IN FAVOR OF LATIN AMERICAN SOLIDARITY AND TO VOTE WITH OTHER LATIN AMERICANS WHENEVER POSSIBLE.

3. FURTHERMORE, (AND THIS WOULD PROBABLY BE CRUCIAL FROM GOB POINT OF VIEW) IF BRAZILIANS BELIEVE ARGENTINA IS LIKELY TO GAIN OBJECTIVES EITHER THROUGH NEGOTIATIONS WITH CANADIANS OR BY DEALING WITH FRANCE OR INDIA, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT GOB WILL NOT ONLY SUPPORT ARGENTINA BUT WILL ALSO SEEK ITS OWN UNSAFEGUARDED SUPPLIES. THIS WOULD HAVE ADVANTAGE OF MAINTAINING LATIN AMERICAN SOLIDARITY IN SHORT-TERM AND PROTECTING BRAZILIAN INTERESTS IN MEDIUM AND LONG-TERM. IT WOULD BE ADDITIONAL MANIFESTATION OF KEEPING NUCLEAR OPTIONS OPEN REFLECTED IN BRAZIL'S ATTITUDE TOWARD NPT.

4. ADMITTEDLY, ABOVE IS SPECULATIVE PARTICULARLY SINCE BRAZILIANS ARE EXCEEDINGLY CLOSE MOUTHED ABOUT NUCLEAR POLICY. RECENT CONTACT WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS TO DISCUSS ACDA VISIT (STATE 194037) WITH WIDE RANGING DISCUSSION OF NUCLEAR TOPICS, LEADS US TO CONCLUDE, FOR INSTANCE, THAT FOREIGN MINISTRY NOT SEIZED WITH ARGENTINE SAFEGUARDS ISSUE OR SIMPLY NOT TALKNG. WE NOTE FOR THE RECORD, HOWEVER, THAT DURING THE STAG VISIT OF ZBIGNIEW BRZEZINSKI, LATTER HAD LONG CONVERSATION WITH GEN. GOLBERY, WHO IS CHIEF OF THE PRESIDENTIAL CIVIL HOUSEHOLD, AND ONEOF THE MOST INFLUENTIAL POLICY MAKERS IN THE GOB. BRZEZINSKI ASKED WHETHER BRAZIL WOULD GO NUCLEAR IF PROLIFERATION CONTINUED BEYOND INDIA, I.E., ISRAEL, ARGENTINA AND POSSIBLE OTHERS. GOLBERY REPORTEDLY REPLIED AFFIRMATIVELY AND ADDED THAT IF BRAZILIANS WERE TO GO NUCLEAR, THEY WOULD TEST FIRST AND THEN MAKE THE ANNOUNCEMENT (AS THE INDIANS DID) RATHER THAN MAKING THEIR INTENTION PUBLIC BEFORE HAND. PLEASE PROTECT BRZEZINSKI AND GOLBERY.

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